

8553/251

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

ALEXANDER VAN DER LELY et al

Filed: Herewith

APPLICATION BRANCH

Serial No. (to be assigned)

For: A DEVICE FOR AND A METHOD OF  
MILKING ANIMAL, A DEVICE FOR MONITORING  
AN ANIMAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

To The Honorable Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed in the above-identified Application which is being filed under 35 USC Sec. 111(a). Priority of February 13, 2001 is claimed based on Netherlands Patent Application No. 1017354 which was filed in the Netherlands on February 13, 2001.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel without prejudice all claims except Claims 1, 2 and 36-40 without prejudice.

REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is to eliminate multiple-dependent claims from subject Application to establish a Filing Fee. It is to be understood, nevertheless, that the claims originally set forth in subject Application prior to this Preliminary Amendment remain part of the original disclosure of the

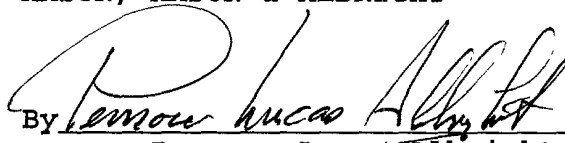
Application.

As amended by this Preliminary Amendment, there are a total of seven (7) claims, two (2) of which are independent claims. Accordingly, it appears that a Filing Fee of \$370.00 is required for this Application and our check to cover same is submitted herewith. However, if this is in error, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is authorized to credit or debit our Account 13-2000 as appropriate.

It is contemplated a Supplemental Preliminary Amendment will be filed with the objective of placing the specification, claims and Abstract in formats which are more customary for U.S. Patent Applications. Such Supplemental Preliminary Amendment should be filed in the near future upon receipt of information from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office concerning the instant Application, including the Serial Number assigned thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

MASON, MASON & ALBRIGHT

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Filed: February 12, 2002  
Attached: Check for \$410.00  
(including Filing Fee and Assign. Fee)